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FOREIGN SERVICE DESPATCH

FROM : Amembassy MOSCOW

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APR 21 1961
April 21, 1961
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TO : THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON

REF : Embassy Despatch No. 704, April 14, 1961

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For Dept. Use Only	ACTION	DEPT.
	INR-10	INFO Rm/R-2 ICA-11 CU-5 B/EAC-1 Rep-1 EUR-5 S/P-1 O-9
	REC'D 4-28	OTHER USIA-11 OSD-2 Army-35 Navy-20 CIA-15 NSA-4 NSC-2

SUBJECT: JOINT WEEKA NO. 16 CIA-16

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
RECEIVED
MAY 1 1961
OFFICE COMMUNICATIONS

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MILITARY

10. First Red Square Rehearsal for May 1, 1961 Parade

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

REVIEWED BY JHA INSWORTH DATE 3/8/83
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EXTERNAL

1. Protest Demonstrations in Connection Cuba (CONFIDENTIAL). The landings in Cuba by anti-Castro forces unleashed a torrent of Soviet propaganda and officially manipulated protests against alleged US "responsibility" for events in Cuba which included a large seven-hour demonstration in front of the Embassy on April 18.

There was a sharp contrast between the strong language of the Khrushchev letter to President Kennedy and the Soviet Declaration on Cuba and the Soviet Government treatment of political agitation which followed. The language of these pronouncements was clearly required by Soviet obligations to the international Communist movement, the need to encourage the Castro forces, and the heritage of earlier indications of willingness to render broad military support to Cuba. No doubt this met with genuine response on the part of party zealots and some student elements here, particularly foreign students at Lumumba University.

Between 1,000 and 1,500 troops and militia were brought in and controlled the demonstration in a highly skilled way. Except for several periods, this force was far in excess of genuine needs. Physical damage to the Embassy included about 50 broken windows and a half-dozen ink stains on the building front.

On April 19 and 20 troops were deployed on side streets near the Embassy but there were no other indications of preparations for demonstrations. Protest activity was limited to calls at the Embassy by Soviets who left "hands-off-Cuba" resolutions adopted by their organizations. As of April 20 the total number of such delegations was 23. The Embassy also received 624 telegrams from factories, collective farms, city councils, trade unions, and schools in different areas of the USSR. The most common theme has been the demand for immediate cessation of the attack on Cuba. Telegrams have varied in describing the degree of US involvement, most speaking of US material support for "mercenaries," but some charging the US Government with aggression.

2. Cuba (OFFICIAL USE ONLY). Developments in Cuba beginning with the B-26 bomber-raids on April 15 cut short the domination of Moscow newspapers by Soviet space pilot, Gagarin. From the first reports, Soviet propaganda emphasized US "responsibility" for both the raids and the subsequent landings by free Cuban forces. Statements by Castro spokesmen including Foreign Minister Roa's efforts in the UN charging direct US complicity were prominently reported. This opening propaganda barrage was followed on April 18 by the demonstration in front of the Embassy, and the Soviet declaration on Cuba and Khrushchev's letter to President Kennedy pledging all necessary assistance to Castro and warning the US of the urgent necessity to cease all assistance to the "interventionists." Among the charges repeated by Soviet propaganda were: (1) the B-26 bombers were American planes which (according to Roa) took off from American bases; (2) the insurgents were trained, armed, financed, and transported by the US; (3) Guantanamo was used as a base for over 1,000 insurgents transported from the US together with arms and landing barges; (4) US Commander-in-Chief O'Mear and CIA Director Allen Dulles were in Costa Rica and Puerto Rico, by implication to direct the activities.

On April 20 at 12:30 PM the Soviet radio began to break into regular programs at regular intervals to report Castro's announcement that the "intervention" had been "completely defeated."

The Soviet press failed to report the President's reply to Khrushchev's message and devoted only one sentence to report statements by Ambassador Stevenson.

3. Laos (CONFIDENTIAL). Souvanna Phouma was given customary honors for a head of government upon his arrival in Moscow, April 16. On April 18 he flew to Sochi to visit Khrushchev. The TASS communique reporting this event did not go beyond saying that Souvanna thanked the Soviet Government, people, and Khrushchev for their understanding of Laotian national interests and for Soviet support "in every possible way," and that Khrushchev and Souvanna agreed there should be a speedy and peaceful settlement in Laos. Shortly after his return to Moscow, Souvanna cancelled the brief trip he had planned to make to Washington. Western diplomats who have seen Souvanna in Moscow after his Sochi visit say he appears to be pleased with the Soviet attitude on Laos and is hopeful of Soviet agreement to a cease fire before an international conference is called.

The Soviet press was virtually silent on other Laotian political and military developments, reporting only a claimed success for the Pathet Lao in an engagement in the Nom Monata area.

4. Germany (OFFICIAL USE ONLY). The Soviet Union in a note delivered to the Embassy April 15 [redacted] B1

5. Visitors (OFFICIAL USE ONLY). The Embassy was informed that Ghanaian Prime Minister Nkrumah is planning to visit Moscow within the next six to eight weeks, and that Khrushchev's planned visit to Africa remains uncertain. It was pointed out that due to weather conditions and the number of invitations involved, Khrushchev would presumably make the trip before the scheduled Party Congress in October if he is to do it this year, and that it would require almost a full month.

Burmese General Ne Win returned to Moscow April 18 after an extensive tour of the USSR, including visits to Soviet Central Asia, Leningrad, Kiev, and the Caucasus.

Mongolian Prime Minister Tsedenbal departed for Ulan Bator on April 15 after signing a supplemental economic aid agreement April 13. The Mongolian leader was given a prominent role in all the public celebrations following the successful Soviet space effort.

A "prominent official figure" from the Republic of Congo, Vezhi Chiteiya, arrived in Moscow and was received by Mukhitdinov April 18.

The Secretary General of the Brazilian Council for Cultural Questions, Mano Pedrova, arrived in Moscow to discuss Soviet participation in the international art and architectural exhibit scheduled for Sao Paulo in the fall.

INTERNAL

6. Leadership (OFFICIAL USE ONLY). With three understandable exceptions, the full CPSU CC Presidium was in Moscow April 14 to greet "space pilot" Yuriy Gagarin and to participate in his triumphal reception in the capital. Not present, M.A. Suslov was in India heading the CPSU delegation to the Indian CP Congress, and A.B. Aristov and M.G. Pervukhin apparently remained at their ambassadorial duties in Poland and Germany, respectively.

It is interesting to note that in composing Pravda's photo of the Gagarin family and Soviet leaders, only CC Secretary F.R. Kozlov and Chief of State L.I. Brezhnev were selected to join Khrushchev in the picture, together with Defense Minister Marshal R.Ya. Malinovskiy and Marshal K.Ye. Voroshilov. Kozlov himself had just returned from the April 11-12 Tadzhikistan purge-plenum.

After the hero's welcome for Gagarin, Khrushchev and A.I. Mikoyan returned to Sochi, where they have adjoining dachas. On April 18, they dined with Souvanna Phouma, who had flown to Sochi for conversations with Khrushchev.

CC Secretary and Presidium member N.A. Mukhitdinov was particularly active in protocol functions this week, dealing with Mongolians, Moroccans, Congolese, Souvanna Phouma, and African ambassadors. As chairman of the All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions, Presidium candidate-member V.V. Grishin was also meeting foreigners at a Scottish Congress of Trade Unions.

During the course of the week, Chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers (Premier) D.S. Polyanskiy seemed to be occupied in the provinces where he may be helping to implement the leadership clean-up. His publicized travels thus far have included a pilgrimage to Khrushchev's home and model farm village Kalinovka in Kursk Oblast on April 12 (Pravda Ukrainy, Apr. 14) where he "acquainted himself at length with its management," and to Tambov where on April 19 he participated in a meeting of oblast party activists (as he may have done in Kursk).

7. Scandal and Purge in Tadzhikistan (OFFICIAL USE ONLY). A plenum of the Tadzhik CP Central Committee April 11-12 was the agent for initiating what probably was a long over-due reform of the Tadzhik party-government apparatus which, in accord with Soviet Central Asian traditions, seems to have been dominated and operated in "Stalinesque" fashion by a coterie of party-government officials headed by long-time Republic party chieftain First Secretary T. Ul'dzhabayev. Although the principal charge levied against him and his cronies is that of manipulating cotton delivery figures so as to falsify plan fulfillment claims for the past three years, the current major shake-up in Tadzhik leadership personnel obviously is aimed at breaking up a local party-government machine which not only had become increasingly corrupt and, apparently, inefficient, but had attempted to deceive and, in this

sense, oppose the central party-government apparatus headed by a reform-minded Khrushchev.

As anticipated, the local press account of the plenum (Kommunist Tadzhikistana, Apr. 14) is relatively more detailed than the Pravda April 16 report which gave the Tadzhik scandal nation-wide publicity. Ul'dzhabayev, Chairman of the Tadzhik Council of Ministers (Premier) N. Dodkhudoyev, and Second Secretary P. Obnosov have been relieved of their positions and thrown out of the party. From varying degrees of action and recommendation by the plenum, similar fates seem certain for a deputy premier (Dodabayev), the first deputy chairman of the Republic Sovnarkhoz (Yusupov), the Republic prosecutor (Khuseynov), the Minister of Trade (Takhirov), a Deputy Minister of Internal Affairs (Kasymov), the Consumers Cooperatives' chairman (Musayev), and Leninabad Oblast's first secretary (Ibragimov) and executive committee (ispolkom) chairman (Karimov). Under a cloud and unlikely to remain long in their present positions are Tadzhik Supreme Soviet Presidium Chairman M. Rakhmatov (reprimanded) and Republic Sovnarkhoz Chairman D. Gachechiladze. Both were cited for lack of principle and insufficient initiative and activity in exposing the anti-party, anti-state activities of the wrongdoers.

A purge of this magnitude is likely to affect many additional organizations and officials susceptible to charges of complicity or criminal silence. From an article in Komsomol'skaya Pravda (Apr. 20), it probably will be extended to the Tadzhik Komsomol organization, a number of whose officials, including First Secretary S. Mirzoshoyev, were attacked for lack of principle, covering up deficiencies, deception of government and other charges related to the over-all scandal on the falsification of cotton statistics. In this article, former Tadzhik Minister of Agriculture A. Abdullayev, who had been relieved without explanatory comment on March 23, was implicated along with Mirzoshoyev.

The only persons who seem to have gained thus far from the shake-up are Tadzhik Party Secretary D. Rasulov who has been promoted to replace Ul'dzhabayev; A. Kakharov, until now Tadzhik GOSPLAN Chairman, who has become premier instead of Dodkhudoyev; and newly chosen Second Secretary I.G. Koval'. Both Rasulov and Kakharov already were on the Tadzhik Central Committee's Bureau (Republic equivalent to CPSU CC Presidium), and, as members of this key organ, must have been involved with the Ul'dzhabayev clique's machinations in some degree. Koval', once identified as an inspector of the CPSU CC, may be the central apparat's watchdog on the Tadzhik secretariat and bureau, charged with overseeing implementation of the reform. At the plenum itself, this role was filled by one of Khrushchev's top lieutenants, CPSU Secretary and Presidium Member F.R. Kozlov whose speech at the plenum has not been published.

8. Follow-up of the Gagarin Space Flight (OFFICIAL USE ONLY). For two days following Yuriy Gagarin's April 12 return from the "cosmos," almost all Soviet newspapers were largely devoted to the story, providing the reader also with articles and photographs of his family life and background and, of course, handsome photographs. (By contrast, some papers published exceedingly unflattering photos of US astronauts, Pravda Vostoka of April 13.) On April 14 he was given a hero's welcome to Moscow including a Red Square parade with evening fireworks, made a "Hero of the Soviet Union" and designated "Space Pilot of the USSR" by decree of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, a title which that body inaugurated to

commenorate the occasion. At the junior level, Moscow diplomatic circles raised the question of whether he rode the capsule down or made the last leg of the flight by parachute jump, and questioned whether he actually had ridden the "space ship" on the date stated, pointing out certain odd twists to the manner and timing of Soviet anncuncements. The Moscovites themselves seemed proud of the achievement although Embassy travellers in the Central Asia area at the time reported little evident enthusiasm or interest among the natives as the first news came over the radio.

The extensive coverage in the press receded quickly from its high two-day peak, but the journals and other Agit-prop techniques apparently will be used to attempt to keep up the momentum.

Ogonyek of April 16 has a cover picture of Gagarin which merely was set over the remaining original cover -- giving the issue two covers. Portrait-photographs of Gagarin are now available in Moscow book stores, and by now scores of Soviet babies have been named "Yuriy" or "Yurate." There is a Gagarin Sovkhoz in Kazakhstan, a Yuriy Gagarin peak and a Yuriy Gagarin glacier -- both on a mountain near the Chinese border (Kazakhstanskaya Pravda, Apr. 14), Yuri Gagarin streets in Vil'nius and other cities (Sovetskaya Litva, Apr. 16), and a new film documentary: "A Man Returns From The Cosmos" (Leninskoye Znamya, Apr. 20).

9. Three More RSFSR Oblast First Secretaries Released (OFFICIAL USE ONLY). On April 18, an Astrakhan' Oblast Party Plenum called to review the "state of affairs in the oblast" released in disgrace oblast First Secretary I.P. Ganenko for not making appropriate efforts and for not providing leadership in connection with backward industry and agriculture (Pravda, Apr. 19). At the 20th Party Congress Ganenko was elected a candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee. Since no future duties have been indicated for him, he is not likely to be re-elected by the 22nd CPSU Congress in October.

The plenum, attended by the Central Committee's RSFSR Bureau Deputy Chairman V.M. Churayev, elected V.I. Antonov to replace Ganenko as first secretary and obkom bureau member. Antonov had been obkom first secretary of Karachayevo-Cherkessk Autonomous Oblast (Stavropol'Kray).

On April 19, a plenum in Pskov Oblast released First Secretary M. Ya. Kanunnikov, supposedly in connection with his retirement (Sovetskaya Rossiya, Apr. 20). Therefore, presumably, Kanunnikov as well will not be re-elected to the CPSU CC as a candidate member, a title he has held since 1952. Pskov Oblast Second Secretary I.S. Gustov was selected to replace him.

In a transfer probably not connected with a fall from grace, on April 11 a Novgorod plenum released V.A. Prokof'yev as first secretary and bureau member "in connection with transfer to other duties." CPSU CC member Prokof'yev is not known to be in any difficulty. M.A. Polehkin, deputy chief of the CC section on Party organs for the RSFSR, attended the plenum which replaced Prokof'yev with former Leningrad City Bureau member V.N. Bazovskiy.

Although shifts at the first secretary level in one oblast may precipitate other changes as part of a chain reaction, a majority of the more than 20 changes in

RSFSR party posts at that level since December 1 seem to have been connected with the search for more able and less corrupt local leadership.

DECLASSIFIED

MILITARY

First Red Square Rehearsal for May 1, 1961 Parade (CONFIDENTIAL). First Red Square rehearsal of mechanized and motorized elements for the May 1 Parade held April 17 included virtually the same number and types of equipment as appeared November 7, 1960 with the exception of FROG 2.

For the Charge d'Affaires ad interim:

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